Country	Initiation	Provisional Measures	Definitive Duties	Price under- takings Measures in Force on 30.06.1997	
Mexico	5	9	4	0	100
Japan	0	0	0	0	3
New Zealand	1	1	3	0	26
Peru	3	3	3	0	6
Phippines	2	1	0	0	NR*
Singapore	0	0	0	0	2
South Africa	11	18	21	0	40
Thailand	1	1	1	0	NR*
Turkey	5	0	0	0	37
United States	20	22	15	0	305
Venezuela	0	2	0		3

*NR Indicates that the country in question did not submit a list of measures in force as on 30.06.1997.

Blank indicates that the WTO Statement does not indicate that information.

FDI in Cigarette Industry

213. SHRI AKHILESH DAS:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of INUDSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the tobacco farmers and beedi industry agaisnt Government's decision to allow 100 percent Foreign Direct Investment in cigarette industry;

(b) if so, how it is likely to affect the interests of tobacco growers, Tendulcave pickers and the beedi industry in terms of beedi workers to be rendered jobless and others engaged in beedi industry; and

(c) how far this decision agrees with the basic Government policy of promoting "Swadeshi" vis-a-vis mulinationals and how far it is conducive to public health?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (c) Government have received representations from tobacco farmers and beedi industry. Farmers associations/tobacco producers cooperatives have welcomed 100% FDI in cigarette industry on the ground that competition for procurement of tobacco would ensure better returns for tobacco growers. In so far as beedi industry associations are concened, we have received representations both in support and agaisnt 100% FDI in cigarette industry.

Beedis and cigaretters genertaly cater to differcent market segments as is evident from the Beedi industry already coexisting with a growing domestic cigarette industry. Beedi workers are not likely to be adversely affected with the induction of 100% foreign direct investment as it encourages competititveness only in the cigarette sector.

Forcign invesmtnets in consumers sectors, including cigarettes, are subject to additonal conditions like dividend balancing through foreign exchange earnings, etc., thus ensureing a level playing field to the domestic industry.

While cigarette smoking is injurious to health, the source the investment in this sector per se cannot be seen as an aggravating or relevant factor.

KVIC Projects in rural areas

*214. SHRIMATIBASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various projects being launched and implemented in the rural areas of the country by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission,

Statewise;

(b) the number of industries in the State of Assam which have been provided loans during the last three years;

(c) the details of pending cases for grant of loans to industrial units in Assam; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has been implementing the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) since 1995-96. Te programme consists of the following components:

(i) Special Employment Programme (SEP) in 71 districts.

(ii) Development Programme in 125 RPDS Blocks.

(iii) National Programme for selected villagae industries *viz.* Beekeeping, Handmade Paper and Leather.

(iv) Thrust Aea Industries Programme *viz.* Pottery, Soap, Lime, Cane and Bamboo, Processing of Cereals and Pulses, Villagae Oils, etc.

The REGP aims to create 2 million additional jobs in the rural areas of the country. The State-wise number of projects launched and implemented is not available with the KVIC.

(b) 9519 industries have been provided loans in the State of Assam during the last three years.

(c) and (d) Three project proposals; two of them for brick bhattas and one for readymade garments have been received by KVIC from Assam. Two of them have been sanctioned, however, funds are yet to be released due to non-completion of certain legal formalities by the entrepreneurs. One project is under scrutiny/ appraisal in the KVIC.

Disinvestments recommended by Disinvestment Commission

*215. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: SHRI AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Fertilizer Corporation of India suffered the heaviest loss amongst the Public Sector Undertaking in 1997-98; and

(b) if so, the details of the Central PSUs which suffered losses during the year indicating the extent of loss suffered by each, and the total Government investment in each of them?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) Yes, Sir, as per available information for 1996-97.

(b) During 1996-97, 104 Central PSUs have incurred losses. The PSUspwise details of losses and investments made in these Central PSUs are available at Statement 7B and Statement 16 of Public Enterprises Survey 1996-97 Vol. I which was laid in both the Houses of Parliament on 8.6.1998.

"ट्रिप्स" समझौते में परिवर्तन

*216. **डा० महेश चन्द्र शर्मा:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का यह विचार है कि "ट्रिप्स" समझौते में अनुच्छेद 70.9 तत्वतः असंगत है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार इस अनुच्छेद को उक्त समझौते में से हटाने के लिए कोई प्रयास कर रही है;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने ट्रिप्स समझौते की समुचित समीक्षा की है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो किन-किन प्रावधानों में परिवर्तन करना आवश्यक है?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री रामकृष्ण हेगड़े): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।